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Title: Need to upgrade Mysore Airport near Mandakalli on Mysore-Ooty highway for promoting tourism and trade-Laid.

*SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR (MYSORE) : There has been an inordinate delay in the upgradation of the Mysore Airport near Mandakalli on Mysore-Ooty highway. The absence of air transport facility has caused serious setback to the development of tourism and trade in Mysore. A large number of tourists like to visit Mysore every day. The Mysore Royal Palace is a major attraction for the domestic as well as foreign tourists. Besides the tourists like to come to Mysore to see the Krishna Raj Sagara Dam, Brindaban Garden, Chamandi Temple, Jagmohan Palace and Lalita Mahal Palace. There are several other places of tourists which draw a large number of tourists to Mysore.

The traditional arts and paintings of Mysore attract people all over India and abroad. If the Mysore Airport is upgraded to a full-fledged airport and Air services are introduced from Mysore to other destinations, it will draw a large number of tourists to the city. Further, many private operators are also keen to operate flight to Mysore.

I request the Government that the existing runway of Mysore airport be adequately expanded and all other formalities completed expeditiously for the upgradation of that Airport to facilitate air services from Mysore to various destinations in the country without further delay.

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*Laid on the Table.